The Caledonian Mercury.

Edinburgh, Monday, December 15, 1729.

From the Universal Spectator, Decem. 6.

EFFEMINACY and *LUXURY*, when once they have overspread a Country, are sure Presages of *Misery* and *Ruin*. *Cyrus*, by *politically* introducing these Mischiefs, enervated and *kept under* an *once* flourishing and warlike Nation. The *Persian* Empire was ruined by these Vices; and *Rome*, unconquerable by Arms, lost the Terror of her Name, and became an easy Prey to Barbarians, when *Asiatick* Luxury had prepared the Way for her Subversion.

Happy is it for *England*, that a Treaty is concluded with *Spain*: For I can't believe, should we have the Misfortune of a War, that our Troops would again repleniſh *Westminster-Hall* with the Enemies Standarts; except the *Ladies*, with whom we seem to have barter'd our *Spirit* for their *Delicacy*, should take Commissions. And I don't know but the Apprehensions of our making but an ill Figure in the Field, arising from the very fine Figure our young (nay, and many old) Gentlemen make at Home, has induc'd the Administration (jealous of the *British Glory*) to try all *pacifick* Means to adjust the late Differences. They say an Army of *Sheep* headed by a *Lyon*, is more to be feared than an Army of *Lyons* headed by a *Sheep*. If so, what Success can be expected from our Arms, when our Soldiers are to be commanded by *Ganymedes*, who wear as much ground Starch in a Year, as the taking a Town would require Gun-Powder; who know no use of their Legs but in a Minuet, and by their ridiculous Toupees, would be laid up in Colds assoon as they were got into the Field. Besides, on a sudden Assault, one Wing of such an Army might be trode down, before the other could get out their Swords; for I suppose, to save a Kingdom, they could not be induc'd to quit the *Jænti*, wearing 'em so in a perpendicular Line. I must say the Ladies are in the Right to assume the Masculine Dress, seeing the Men assume their Privileges, and are more Women in Air and Converse, than their Mothers.

The fine Figure such Officers would make, in stead of terrifying, would animate an Enemy, by setting before hungry Soldiers such valuable Plunder. The *Macedonians* look'd upon the embroidered *Persians*, deck'd out rather for a *Ball* than a *Battle*, as Sheep with Golden Fleeces, and whereof they did easily strip them. A Pair of cloak'd Stockings wool perhaps prove the Death of the Wearer, and a Diamond Stock buckle deny him Quarter. Finery has oft proved the Ruin of the Beau. *Plancus Plutius* had probably escaped Death, being proscrib'd by the Triumvirate; but by the Fidelity of his Slaves, was hid in a Place where he had been secure, if he had not been smelt out by his Perfumes, and drag'd to Death. Holy Writ gives Examples of the fatal Effects of *Luxury*: *Absalom* was a Beau, and took a particular Care of, and delighted in his Hair, which at last proved the Loss of his Life. King *Muly Assy*, flying with his routed Army, was distinguished by his *Finery*, seized and brought Prisoner to his victorious Son. Much more might be said, to divert the Reader, with Accounts of the Overthrows of *whimsical Armies*.

The *Sibarites* were entirely given up to *Luxury*; they were as great Beaux as any of our *Queue* Gentlemen, consequently more lazy; as is evident from their looking upon *Dancing* as too great a Fatigue, for they taught all their Horses this graceful Accomplishment; which, for ought I can see, gave rise to the French Proverb, *Poli comme un Cheval de Caresse*. When they made Entertainments, Players on the Flute were sent for, while their Horses danc'd on their hind Legs very gracefully managing their Fore-feet. These People had Disputes with the *Crotoniates*, who were inferior to them in Number: In one of their Entertainments, a Piper happened to be scurvily used, and not getting Justice, went over to the *Crotoniates*, and promised them Victory over the *Sibarites*, if they'd follow his Advice. After some Consultation, they gave him the Command of a Party, whom he immediately set to the Practice of the Flute; and when they were made perfect, march'd against his Countrymen: Who came out to meet him with

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480

Assurance of Victory, from their Numbers. How soon Mr. Piper found himself within a proper Distance, he ordered his Men to handle their Flutes, which the Enemies Horse no sooner heard than they were bolt upright, their Riders cast, and an orderly Dance begun. The Piper led off his Party playing, the Enemies Horses dancing after; while another Party, without Trouble, made Prisoners of their Riders.

But, there is nothing more ridiculous than Preaching to the Deaf, or desiring the Blind to give a Judgment of Colours. I am much of opinion, that all the Reasons and Examples I can produce, of the pernicious Effects of *Effeminacy*, will avail but little towards shaking of this *inglorious Vice*. I therefore shall conclude with a Word of Admonition to the Ladies, as the only Method left to root out the Evil; which is, That none be admitted to admire their Beauty, whom they think not *Men* enough to defend it: And such they will seldom find among the *Effeminate* and *Luxurious*.

Wye's Letter verbatim, London, Decem. 9.

No Foreign Mails this Post.

THE signing of the Accession mentioned in our last, of the States General, to the Treaty of Peace and Friendship concluded with Spain, manifestly shews that they are not, as some suggested, under any Apprehensions that may give them the least Uneasiness from the Emperor; and 'tis remarked that we are under no Apprehensions from him by disbanding so great a Number of our Land Forces: But it is believed that the Troops of certain foreign Princes in Germany, and other Countries, in the Pay of Great Britain, may be continued, at least till it shall be known how the Emperor designs to act in the Spring.

We are told, that immediately after Colonel Stanhope, now Lord Harrington, arrives here from the Court of Spain, the honourable Mr. Finch, 2d Son to the Earl of Nottingham, will set out thither, with the Character of his Britanick Majesty's Minister.

'Tis supposed by the Advices which our Merchants received Yesterday from the West Indies, That a Spanish Guard de Coast Ship, hath lately taken an English Ship belonging to Bristol, with 200 Slaves on Board, and carried her into Cuba; that the News of a Conclusion of a Peace with his Catholick Majesty was not then arrived in those Parts. They add, That his Majesty's Ship Trial had also taken two Spanish Guard de Coast Ships, and carried them into Jamaica.

About Ninety Sail of Merchant Ships, outward bound, are still in the Downs, almost continually tossed with tempestuous Winds, which make it extraordinary that no more Damages have happened; however, their being delayed so many Weeks, there must be a considerable Loss to the Owners of those Ships.

The Rio de Janeiro Fleet from Brasil, consisting of 12 Merchant Ships and two Men of War, are arrived at Lisbon.

Our Merchants have an Account of no less than Nine of their Ships being lost this Month on the Coasts of Portsmouth, Cornwall and Liverpool, Bristol Channel, Wales, &c.

The Peace and Friendship being restored with Spain, 'tis thought will very much facilitate the Establishment of a Civil Government at Gibralter, by a Mayor, Alderman, &c. which is now again under Consideration; and 'tis said several Merchants, who are judged fit Magistrates for this New Corporation, will go in a short Time and settle there, having several Privileges and Encouragements granted them by Charter for that Purpose.

The Close of last Week Colonel Chartris set out hence for Brussels, the Occasion of which, as is given out, will probably soon be known. South S. S. 103 7 8ths.

'Tis computed, that the total Reduction made hitherto out of the Three Regiments of Guards, with the Six Men more that are to be reduced out of each Company of the said Regiments, will make 1024 Men, and save the Government L. 15462 per Annum, at 10 d. per Day each Man.

From the Evening Post, Decem. 9.

Dresden, Nov. 2. Should we undertake to give you an Account of the Preparations that are making near Muhlberg, for the Encampment of the whole Saxon Troops, they would appear to you incredible.

Ratisbon, Dec. 1. We see here an Imperial Rescript, directed to the K. of Prussia; wherein the Emperor declares his particular Satisfaction, that his Prussian Majesty does observe the Conservatorium confer'd upon him in all its Parts, and uses his utmost Endeavours to maintain the Provisional

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Administration; in regard the Imperial Ordinances issued upon that Subject, are founded upon Justice and Equity, and conform to the Emperor's Sovereign Authority.

London, Decem. 9. On Saturday last Col. Chartris set out with a great Retinue for Brussels. On Friday Night the Colonel was served with a Copy of a Writ, for defamatory Words spoken at the Rainbow Coffeehouse in Fleetstreet, against Alderman Child.

They write from Middleworth in Cheshire, that on Tuesday was sennight died one Margaret Packston, an old Maid of 97, who had lived a Servant in the Family of Mr. Horton and his Father since she was 17 Years old. What is remarkable: She left to 6 old Maids that attended her Funeral, for every Year of their Age 12 d. so that the youngest, being upwards of 50, received so many Shillings for her Share.

From the Daily Post Boy, Decem 9.

Petersburg, Nov. 12. On the 8th last. we launched 2 new Galleys of 22 Benches each. Frequent Robberies have been of late committed by Night in this Place, so that Barracks are ordered to be built at the Admiralty and along the Ramparts, for lodging the Seamen and Soldiers, and preventing their being abroad at unseasonable Hours.

Hamburg, Dec. 2. Letters from Brunswic continue to speak dubiously of the Congress there.

The Nobility and States of Mecklemburg have lately received another Imperial Rescript, threatning them, 'That if they persist any longer in 'Opposition to the Emperor's Decrees, and the 'Resolution of the Diet, with regard to the Administration, agreeable to the Constitutions of 'the Empire, his Imperial Majesty will not be able to forbear exerting his Authority, by enforcing the Ban of the Empire, and constraining 'them by Military Execution.' On the other hand, the Governor of Domitz has sent printed Copies of a new Declaration of the Duke of Mecklemburg into all the Bailiwicks, Lordships and Domains round that Fortress, menacing 'em, 'That 'unless they appear and furnish the Forrage and 'Contributions demanded, they shall incur the 'Penalty of Military Execution, and be deem'd 'Rebels and Traitors to boot.' That Commander is augmenting the Dragoons in Garison, which he has rendred almost impregnable, and stored it with all Sorts of Necessaries to hold out a Siege of four Years.

Paris, Dec. 10. N.S. The write from Germany, that they have a Project there of making a general Enquiry into the Estates and Benefices under the Dominion of the King of Prussia. This causes a great Consternation among those who have had Grants from the Predecessors of the present King, fearing that they may be turned out of them, under Pretence that their Possessions being alienated from the Domains of the Crown. Many of the Inhabitants of Magdebourg and Halberstad are going to enter a solemn Protest against this Proceeding, as not warrantable by the Treaties of Munster and Osnabrug, which provide, That all Arch bishops, Bishops, and Seculars, shall enjoy forever all their ancient Priviledges; but some People have such a Knack at explaining Treaties to their own Purposes, that we cannot tell whether the Clergy will be able to save their Bacon, if this Enquiry be executed.

We had last Tuesday the most terrible Storm of Wind that has been known in a long Time. It has been the Occasion of many Disorders, as well in Paris as in the Places round about: Among others, it blew down about 4000 Weight of Lead of the Gutters and Covering of of the Left Wing of the Luxembourg Palace, which brought with it a Part of the Stone-Wall.

From the London Evening-Post, Decem. 9.

Plymouth, Decem. 5. Came in the *Eleanor and Mary* of Montrose, Capt. Pearson, from Alicant.

A few Days since Dr. Gordon, an eminent Physician, was married to a Sister of Capt. Goddard, of the 4th Troop of Horse Guards.

The Ship we mentioned in our last to have been lost near Padstow, was loaden with Tobacco, and bound from Scotland to Roterdam.

The *Restauration*, Capt. Gregory, bound from Camphire to Cadix and Leith, was lately forced ashore and lost near Ostend.

We are credibly informed that Stephen Pointz, Esq; his Majesty's Third Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at the Congress of Soissons, will be made his Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the French Court, in room of his Excel. Horace Walpole, Esq;

Edinburgh, Decem. 15. On Tuesday the 2d Inst. the Rt. Honourable, Strenuous and *Protestant* Patriot, WILLIAM EARL of ABERDEEN, was married (at Gordon-Castle) on the Most Noble

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LADY ANNE GORDON, Third Daughter of the Illuſtrious and Puiſſant Houſe of *Gordon*: A celebrated Beauty, and a great Fortune; but, by much, more conſpicuous for the ſhining Virtues of Auguſt Anceſtors. There were preſent on this Occaſion, His Grace the Duke of Athole, the Earls of Aboyne and Leven, with others of Quality and Diſtinction; and the Nuptial Ceremony was performed by the Reverend Mr. Alexander Cheyne, Presbyter of the Church of Scotland, and Chaplain to the Family.

We ſee in the *London Gazettee*, an Advertiſement inſert by Order of the Commiſſioners of Exciſe, anent the late Duty on compound Waters, &c. and which Act takes Place the 25th inſtant.

This Day (being the 7th of the Moon) 'tis High Water at Leith at 7 o' Clock, 6 Min. Tomorrow, at 7, 54 Min. Wedneſday, at 8, 42 Min.

Haddington, Decem. 5, 1729.

Beſt Wheat,	08 16 00.	2d, 08 00 00.	3d, 07 16 00
Beſt Bear,	06 18 00.	2d, 06 10 00.	3d, 06 06 00
Beſt Oats,	06 12 00.	2d, 06 00 00.	3d, 05 12 00
Beſt Peaſe,	04 18 00.	2d, 04 10 00.	3d, 04 06 00

ADVERTISEMENTS.

¶+¶ That by Order of the Truſtees for the Creditors of WILLIAM DOUGLAS younger of GLENBERVY, the Roup and Sale of the Lands and Barony of FOODY and FINGASK, is Prorogate to Tueſday the 27th of January, next, in the Houſe of Mris. Thom Vintner in Edinburgh, betwixt the Hours of 3 & 5 in the Afternoon. The Rental, Progreſs and Conditions of Sale, are to be ſeen in the Hands of *William Forbes* Writer to the Signet, at his Chamber in the Parliament Cloſe.

¶+¶ To be Sold by voluntary Roup, on Tueſday the 16th of December Inſt. within the Laigh Coffeehouſe, Edinburgh, 'twixt the Hours of 3 & 5 after Noon, a LODGING or DWELLING-HOUSE, (conſiſting of Three Fire rooms, all well finiſhed, and a good well-lighted Kitchen with a Dining-room wanting a Fire, alſo well finiſhed; 3 light Cloſets and other Conveniencies) belonging to Robert Maxwell, Founder Burgeſs of Edinburgh, and preſently poſſeſſed by himſelf, lying on the Eaſt-ſide of MONTEITH's CLOSE, upon the North Side of the High Street, Edinburgh, oppoſite to the Fountain-well, with a convenient Workhouſe and Area, and a good Draw-well therein, lying within the ſaid Cloſe, over-againſt the ſaid Lodging. The Rental, Conditions of Sale, and Progreſs, are to be ſeen in the Hands of ALEXANDER CHRISTIE Writer in Edinburgh, at his Chamber in the 4th Storey of Wilkie's Land, any Time before the ſaid Roup.

¶+¶ That the TENEMENTS of LAND after mentioned, (lying within the City of Edinburgh) which belonged to the deceaſt *ROBERT STARK* Writer in Edinburgh, *viz.* A Tenement of Land in the Cloſe called *The Back of Beſs Wynd*, conſiſting of four Storeys, with Cloſets, Cellars and Garrets, being of yearly Rent about *L.* 24 06 08 ſterl. and that other Tenement of Land in *Preſton's Cloſe*, commonly called *Stewart's Cloſe*, on the North Side of the Street, near the Croſs, conſiſting of five Storeys, and a Top or Garret-ſtorey, with Cloſets and Cellars belonging thereto, paying *L.* 34 15 ſh. ſterl. of yearly Rent: ARE to be expoſed to voluntary Roup and Sale, by the Relict of the ſaid deceaſt Robert Stark, as having Right thereto from her Husband; each of the ſaid Tenements by themſelves, either in haill or in different Storeys, as Purchaſers ſhall deſire, upon the Eighth Day of January next, at Three of the clock after Noon, within the Houſe of Mris. *Nicholſon* Vintner in Edinburgh. The particular Rental, Progreſs and Conditions of Roup, are to be ſeen in the Hands of *ADAM MERCER* Writer in Edinburgh, at his Houſe in the Head of Liberton's Wynd.

¶¶¶ To be Sold, to the higheſt Bidder, at *Thornhill* in the Shire of Dumfries, on the 15th Day of January 1730, a large Wood of fine OLD OAK, growing on the Grounds of the Barony of Keir, about ſeven Miles diſtant from the Town of Dumfries. The Conditions of Sale to be ſeen in the Hands of JOHN DALRYMPLE of Waterſide, at his Houſe near Thornhill; JOHN NEILSON of Chapel, at his Houſe in Dumfries; and THOMAS GOLDIE Writer to the Signet, at his Writing-chamber in Brounhill's Square, Laun-market, Edinburgh.

¶¶¶ That there is to be Sold at Birkhill, at very reaſonable Rates, ſeveral Sorts of YOUNG TREES in Nurſeries, fit for planting out; conſiſting of Oak, Aſh, Plain, Elm, Beech, Hollies, Ewes and Birks. Any who has a-mind for the ſame, may enquire at Birkhill, or at Alexander Aitkens Vintner at Dundee Water Side.

¶¶¶ The Wood of ALLOA, conſiſting of Oak, Aſh, Aller or Arns, and ſome Birch, lying hard by the Harbour of Alloa, from whence the Timber may be eaſily tranſported by Water, is to be expoſed to Sale by way of publick Auction or Roup, in the Tolbooth of Alloa, on the firſt Wedneſday (which is the Fourth Day) of February 1730. The Articles of Roup and Sale may be ſeen at any Time, after the firſt Day of January next; at Edinburgh, in John's Coffeehouſe; at Stirling, in the Hands of John Watſon Writer there; and at Alloa, in the Hands of John Erskine Clerk of Alloa.

EDINBURGH: Printed For and By Mrs. *Thomas* and *Walter Ruddimans*. Sold at the Printing-houſe; and at Mr. *Alexander Symmers*'s Shop in the Parliament-Cloſe. At both which Places, *Advertiſements* and *Subſcriptions* are taken in.